



Office of the Government of the Slovak Republic

**Elaboration of the Government Strategy for Addressing Problems of the  
Romani National Minority into a Package of Concrete Measures  
for year 2000 - Stage II**

**(Abridged version)**

Adopted through Governmental Resolution No. 294/2000  
of 3.5.2000.

Bratislava, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2000

## INTRODUCTION

In September 1999, the Government of the Slovak Republic approved the *Strategy of the Government for Addressing the Problems of the Romani National Minority and a Set of Measures for Its Implementation - Stage I*. The next step for its implementation was to elaborate concrete measures to take at the levels of individual sectors, regions and districts, including securing finance for projects from the 2000 state budget. This process resulted in stage II of the government strategy, the full version of which is available at the government's web site:

[http://www.government.gov.sk/csaky/index\\_romska\\_problematika.shtml](http://www.government.gov.sk/csaky/index_romska_problematika.shtml).

Regarding that the full government document contains a wide scope of activities, we prepared also this abridged version, containing a summary of the most important regional and departmental activities, which follow the strategic aims of stage I.

*The Elaboration of the Strategy of the Government for Addressing Problems of the Romani National Minority into a Package of Concrete Measures for year 2000 - Stage II* was approved through Governmental Resolution No. 294/2000 on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2000. It contains 282 concrete activities and financing of more than SKK 165 million from regional state administration and ministry budgets has been secured for these regional and departmental programmes.

Further finance totalling SKK 30 million has been allocated under the General Treasury Administration Chapter - Reserves for Projects to Address Romani Community Problems and the Romani Community's Social and Cultural Needs - of the 2000 State Budget, of which SKK 10 million has already been allocated for 56 projects through Governmental Resolution no. 222/2000 of 5.4.2000.

In the Slovak Republic, finance for the development of national minority cultures was separately allocated under the Ministry of Culture chapter in the 2000 State Budget Act. Of these funds, a total of SKK 6 402 000 (13.9%) was determined for the culture of the Romani minority (cultural activities, the publication of periodical and non-periodical press) in 1999.

**Resolution of the Government of the Slovak Republic**  
No. 294/2000 of 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2000

**The Government**

**takes note of**

the Elaboration of the Government Strategy for Addressing Problems of the Romani National Minority into a Package of Concrete Measures for 2000 - Stage II (further referred to as Elaborated Strategy II), with comments adopted at the Government's session

**A. instructs**

**ministers,  
heads of regional state administration offices**

**B.1.** to secure the implementation of the Elaborated Strategy II:

**the Government Plenipotentiary for Addressing Problems of the  
Romani National Minority**

**B.2.** to co-ordinate the fulfilment of the Elaborated Strategy II

*continuously*

**B.3.** to prepare information using documentation from sectors and regional offices on the fulfilment of the Elaborated Strategy II for a governmental session for the last calendar year

*by 31.5.2001 and annually*

**B. 4.** to mobilise Romani associations, Romani initiatives and Romani non-governmental organisations to execute the Elaborated Strategy II

*continuously*

**B. recommends that**

**associations of Romani citizens and Romani initiatives,  
non-governmental organisations,  
the General Director of the National Labour Office,  
the Chairman of the Union of Towns and Villages of Slovakia,  
the Chairman of the Association of Towns and Villages of Slovakia,  
and the General Director of the Confederation of Employer Unions  
and Associations of the Slovak Republic**

**C. 1.** co-operate in the implementation of the Elaborated Strategy II.

**To be carried out by:**

Minister of Labour, Social Affairs and Family  
Minister of Construction and Regional Development  
Minister of Justice  
Minister of Economy  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Minister of the Environment  
Minister of Education  
Minister of Agriculture  
Minister of the Interior  
Minister of Health  
Minister of Defence  
Minister of Culture  
Government's Plenipotentiary for Addressing Romani Minority Problems  
heads of regional state administration offices

**For the attention of:**

President of the Slovak Republic  
associations of Romani citizens and Romani initiatives  
non-governmental organisations  
General Director of the National Labour Office  
Chairman of the Union of Towns and Villages of Slovakia,  
Chairman of the Association of Towns and Villages of Slovakia,  
President of the Confederation of Employer Unions and Associations of the  
Slovak Republic

## **Elaboration of the Government Strategy for Addressing Problems of the Romani National Minority into a Package of Concrete Measures for year 2000 - Stage II**

### **1. Human Rights, Rights of Individuals Belonging to National Minorities and Non-governmental Organisations**

In the Slovak Republic, the Roma represent a specific national minority determined by long-term ill-treatment or even discrimination, especially in the past, the assertion of their rights corresponding with their national differences, and historical and social conditions. The protection of the rights of individuals belonging to the Romani national minority and state guarantees for their social and ethnic emancipation require constant attention.

Some aspects of the lives of a certain section of this national minority have led a section of the majority to socially distance themselves unjustly from the whole minority.

One of the prerequisites for the achievement of the Government's goals is the education of all state administration and self-government staff, judges and the police about the issue of racism, as well as training in more active communication and resolving conflict situations.

Another solution to the problems of the Romani national minority is the creation of non-governmental, Romani and pro-Romani civic associations and generally beneficial societies, which will effectively participate in solving the problems of the Romani national minority. The Romani national minority itself must also realise its responsibility for its fate and more actively participate in solving problems.

The Government's measures in this area are based on the civic principle, which underlines the equal treatment of all, positive stimulation (targeted and differentiated) of the Romani population, and on the objective resolution of conflicts, the values of the European community and support for the emerging Romani intelligentsia on a partnership basis.

#### **Ministry of the Interior**

1. Co-operate with the Government Plenipotentiary for Addressing Problems of the Romani National Minority and involved departments within the framework of implementing the Strategy of the Government and its package of measures.

Responsible body (R): Ministry of the Interior

Implementation (I): continuous

Finance (F): not required<sup>1</sup>

2. Co-operate with the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family in analysing racial discrimination.

R: Ministry of the Interior

I: continuous

F: not required

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<sup>1</sup> Measures fulfilment of which requires no finance are indicated by F: "not required".

3. Within the framework of co-operation with the Ministry of Justice, apply the necessary changes to the legal system (re-codification of criminal law regulations) in cases of yet non-punishable racially motivated crimes.

R: Ministry of the Interior  
I: continuous  
F: not required

4. Within its responsibilities, co-operate with IOM (International Organisation for Migration) in repatriating those Roma who were refused asylum.

R: Ministry of the Interior  
I: continuous  
F: not required

5. Eliminate racial intolerance by observing the application of the civic principle in records of perpetrators of criminal acts and by providing information for the mass media.

R: Ministry of the Interior  
I: continuous  
F: not required

6. Secure investigation of racially motivated crimes at regional and district offices.

R: Ministry of the Interior  
I: continuous  
F: not required

7. Pay increased attention to localities where there is considerable tension among citizens, with emphasis on racist attacks by skinheads on the Romani minority. Adopt adequate measures for the given situations.

R: Ministry of the Interior  
I: continuous  
F: not required

8. Secure the completion of curricula for the following courses: law, criminology, ethics and the psychology of police work at the Police Force's secondary schools on the issue of human rights with special regard to the Romani minority.

R: Ministry of the Interior  
I: 2000/2001 academic year  
F: not required

9. Secure the participation of the Police Force and employees coming into contact with the public at a course held by lecturers on the subject of communication and procedures for contact with citizens of the Romani minority.

R: Ministry of the Interior  
I: 2000  
F: not required

## Ministry of Foreign Affairs

1. Carry out the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' human rights activities through international events focused, *inter alia*, on questions connected with the issue of the Romani national minority.

R: Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
I: continuous  
F: not required (Ministry's budget)

2. Support the idea of addressing the Romani issue as a common European question (and not an exclusively internal affair of certain countries) at international fora, taking into consideration governments' responsibilities for activities carried out on a national level.

R: Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
I: continuous  
F: not required (Ministry's budget)

3. Secure continuous contact with international organisations and their experts in the process of reviewing human rights issues and particularly the rights of individuals belonging to the Romani national minority through active participation in working groups, or UN, CE, OSCE, and CEI bodies.

R: Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
I: permanent task  
F: not required (Ministry's budget)

4. Propose monitoring of the resolution of the Romani national minority's problems by V4 governments.

R: Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
I: continuous  
F: not required (Ministry's budget)

5. In the case of interest from Romani cultural organisations, help to secure their participation at international cultural events and international festivals of Romani associations.

R: Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
I: continuous  
F: not required (Ministry's budget)

## Ministry of Defence

1. Regularly organise training led by commanders, lectures and debates with the military police, prosecutors and military court staff aimed at preventing the occurrence of all forms of discrimination, including racial, in the Slovak army.

R: Ministry of Defence  
I: continuous  
F: SKK 25 thousand

2. Regularly evaluate the standard of the observance of discipline and legality in units and staffs, with emphasis on preventing racial discrimination and intolerance, observance of

the conclusions of the European Convention on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms in the Slovak Army.

R: Ministry of Defence

I: continuous

F: not required

3. Pay increased attention to the education of so-called less malleable soldiers in the army, whose approach, behaviour and actions are socially less acceptable. Base training for these individuals on a more individual approach from commanders and other instructors and co-operation with army and external experts.

R: Ministry of Defence

I: continuous

F: SKK 10 thousand

#### Ministry of Justice

1. Include systematic education on the area of human rights in the further training of judges.

R: Ministry of Justice

I: continuous, permanent task

F: not required

2. Apply multicultural training within the framework of the treatment of imprisoned offenders on the basis of a prescribed individually set programme. Use methods and techniques that support morality, improve behaviour and help to preserve the offender's dignity when dealing with offenders.

R: Ministry of Justice

I: continuous, permanent task

F: SKK 1 305 thousand

#### Regional offices

1. Promote human rights and fundamental freedoms and the peaceful coexistence of minorities in the spirit of UN, CE and OSCE documents in the education and extracurricular activities of children and youth regardless of their nationality.

R: regional and district offices

I: continuous

F: not required

2. Support the organisation of events assisting the prevention of conflicts, improvement of majority-minority relations and adoption of the principles of assertive and empathetic behaviour in co-operation with educational psychology advisors and non-governmental organisations.

R: regional and district offices

I: continuous

F: not required



3. Support activities aimed at creating a cross-society environment of tolerance of differences and protection of rights of the individual and minority groups guaranteed by internal and international legal norms.

R: regional and district offices

I: 2000

F: not required

## **2. Training and Education**

This area remains a priority in resolving the problems of the Romani national minority. The education of Romani children and multicultural education throughout the education process are basic prerequisites for improving the coexistence of the Romani community and majority population. Ignorance of other cultures is one of the causes of xenophobia, prejudice and tension. It is therefore necessary that children become acquainted with Romani culture, history and traditions right at the beginning of their education. The Government will ensure that training and education in every school is multicultural and in favour of tolerance with the aim of creating a multicultural society. Multicultural education will form a part of the Long-term Concept for the Development of Education and Training.

The Government's goal is to create conditions for changing the education system so that Romani children can be as successful as the others. The linguistic proficiency and skills of Romani children who do not have the opportunity to learn the language of instruction and acquire the necessary skills at home is another problem.

Securing a new approach to the primary education of Romani children opens opportunities for their further education and also for their eventual participation in life in a civil society.

### Ministry of Education

1. Complete the concept for the education and training of Romani children and students and incorporate it into the Long-term Concept for the Development of Education and Training under preparation.

The task is in progress and further solutions are being prepared.

In line with the planned work on the Long-term Concept for the Development of Education and Training and comments and opinions from public debate, the Concept for the Education and Training of Romani Children and Students will gradually be completed so that both documents correspond and link with the overall long-term Concept for Education and Training in the Slovak Republic - the Millennium Project.

R: Ministry of Education

I: 2000

F: SKK 100 thousand

2. Through the State Pedagogical Institute in Bratislava, monitor, assess and complete the content and form of work in preparatory classes within the framework of the approved Project for the Experimental Verification of Preparatory Classes in Primary Schools for Children from Socially and Linguistically Disadvantaged Backgrounds. Elaborate a project for a full-time education system at primary and middle schools.

R: Ministry of Education

I: 2000

F: SKK 500 thousand

3. Through the Child Psychology and Pathopsychology Research Institute in Bratislava and in the framework of the Institute's task called Methodical Documents for Primary

School Teachers in Ethnically Mixed Territories on Teaching the Slovak Language, Mathematics and Ethics, prepare the following in two separate documents:

- development of the vocabulary and mathematical skills of children from disadvantaged social backgrounds,
- training in social psychology influencing the ethnic views of older children of school age.

Elaborate the documents on the basis of the several years of research carried out by the Child Psychology and Pathopsychology Research Institute in Bratislava aimed at identifying problems related to the Romani child population.

R: Ministry of Education

I: 2000

F: SKK 80 thousand

4. At the Presov Methodical Centre, elaborate methodical and analytical documents on the area of specialised studies for teachers at schools with a high concentration of Romani children and publish a methodical handbook to assist the teachers.

R: Ministry of Education

I: 2000

F: SKK 100 thousand

5. Prepare an analysis of the educational success of pupils from socially and linguistically disadvantaged backgrounds in the conditions of nursery schools, primary schools and special schools.

R: Ministry of Education

I: 2000

F: SKK 150 thousand

6. Co-operate with non-governmental organisations in the effective use of finance and experience in the area of solving the problems of the Romani national minority. To efficiently and effectively use finance (not only from the state budget, but also other sources, including foreign), monitor the distribution of various activities so that the success of Romani pupils is accelerated and the education process improved with the involvement of teachers at schools with a high proportion of Romani children and pupils.

R: Ministry of Education

I: 2000

F: from funds stated  
under point 1

7. Secure conditions for sectoral research on the position of Romani children and pupils in the education system.

In order to secure the efficient use of funds, determine the Presov Methodical Centre as the main guarantor for the implementation of this task in line with its statutes in co-operation with the State Pedagogical Institute, Pedagogical Faculty of Comenius University in Bratislava, Presov University, Romani Culture Department of the University of Constantine the Philosopher in Nitra and its separate facilities in Spišská

Nova Ves, the Child Psychology and Pathopsychology Research Institute in Bratislava, and the Research Institute for Labour, Social Affairs and Family.

R: Ministry of Education

I: 2000

F: SKK 250 thousand

#### Ministry of the Environment

1. Elaborate an environmental education and training programme in co-operation with civic associations and non-governmental organisations engaged in Romani issues.

R: Ministry of the

Environment

I: 30.5.2000

F: SKK 50 thousand

#### Ministry of Defence

1. If there is interest, the military secondary school in Liptovsky Mikulas will provide the following to secure the positive stimulation of access to secondary education and increase the educational level of Romani children and students:
  - a) tutoring in Slovak, a foreign language (English, German), mathematics, and physics for primary school students in the 5<sup>th</sup> year and above;
  - b) tutoring for pupils in the final year of primary school who show an interest in continuing their education when preparing for entrance examinations;
  - c) full preparation for entrance examinations for apprentice school, secondary apprentice school and secondary vocational school students who show interest in continuing their education at a military secondary school;
  - d) conditions for the faster adaptation of accepted pupils and students to the school environment, especially:
    - a/ by ensuring that increased attention is paid to their education in the period immediately after commencing studies,
    - b/ by securing contact with local Romani citizens for the provision of assistance in overcoming linguistic barriers,
    - c/ by providing increased advisory activities in their free time focusing on subjects in which they have the most problems.

R: Ministry of Defence

I: continuous

F: not required

2. The Military Academy in Liptovsky Mikulas will incorporate Romani minority issues into andragogy and social andragogy studies focusing on the specific traits of the Romani national minority.

R: Ministry of Defence

I: continuous

F: not required

3. Employees of the pedagogical, psychology and sociology departments at the Military Academy in Liptovsky Mikulas will provide assistance to district labour office staff in the area of training and education of Roma through training in social psychology.

R: Ministry of Defence

I: continuous

F: not required

#### Ministry of the Interior

1. Co-operate with non-departmental entities specialising in social communication, criminology, penology, forensic psychology and psychiatry in the reciprocal training of police and police force staff on the issues of communication and procedures for contact with citizens of the Romani national minority.

R: Ministry of the Interior

I: continuous

F: not required

2. Following the successful financial coverage of the “Behave Normally” pilot project, secure its implementation at primary schools in regions with large Romani populations. Co-operate with the Ministry of Education and regional offices in its implementation.

R: Ministry of the Interior,

Ministry of Education

I: September 2000

F: N<sup>2</sup>

#### Ministry of Economy

1. Elaborate a project of basic vocational training for Romani citizens with the aim of enabling a group of Romani citizens to have an opportunity to receive basic vocational training on areas which would mean the development of their traditional crafts.

R: Ministry of Economy,

Ministry of Education

I: 2001

F: not required

2. In the area of training, the Ministry of Justice is implementing its tasks under points B. 14 and B. 15 of Governmental Resolution no. 821/99 - Stage I of the Strategy.

R: Ministry of Justice

I: continuous

F: SKK 1.305 million

#### Regional offices

1. Create conditions to increase the number of children attending pre-school facilities for at least 1 year prior to commencing their compulsory education with the aim of obtaining

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<sup>2</sup> Measures indicated by F: “N” have the nature of measures (events), the cost of which will be determined on the basis of a decision by the relevant departmental grant commission or other commission (mainly summer camps, contributions to foundations, etc.) after this document’s submission to the government

physical and psychological skills, including the linguistic preparation necessary for success within the education system.

R: regional and district  
offices  
I: 2000  
F: not required

2. In co-operation with experts on education and social affairs, achieve an increase in the number of Romani pupils who successfully complete their compulsory education in the final year of primary schools with a possibility of continuing their education at secondary schools.

R: regional and district  
offices  
I: 2000  
F: not required

3. Make rational use of the network of special schools for the education and training of pupils from family backgrounds providing little stimulation as well as with various disabilities so that graduates can assert themselves in practical life.

R: regional and district  
offices  
I: 2000  
F: not required

4. Help to increase the number of Romani students who successfully graduate from secondary schools so that they are able to assert themselves on the labour market.

R: regional and district  
offices  
I: 2000  
F: not required

5. Support the further development of training and education at the secondary school of arts in Kosice, Exnarova street No. 8, create conditions for the fulfilment of tasks at individual development stages of the Centre for Culture and Education of Romani Youth and Children of the Kosice Region situated in the city of Kosice in co-operation with central state administration bodies and non-governmental organisations

R: Kosice regional and  
district offices  
I: 2000  
F: SKK 7.515 million

6. Create conditions for the provision of food and board to secondary school students belonging to the Romani minority at school canteens and young people's homes.

R: regional and district  
offices  
I: 2000  
F: not required

7. Improve the quality of educational/advisory activities with the aim of securing sufficient information for Romani pupils and encouraging their interest in continuing their studies at secondary schools and universities, including Romani culture department at the Pedagogical Faculty in Nitra and its separate facilities in Spisska Nova Ves.

R: regional and district  
offices

I: 2000

F: not required

8. Increase the capacity of primary schools in municipalities with rapidly growing populations, especially in the districts of Spisska Nova Ves, Kosice-surroundings, Roznava, Trebisov and Michalovce. In fulfilling the tasks arising from Government Resolution No. 821/1999, develop a wide range of forms of co-operation with scientific facilities providing advice on the pedagogical and psychological fields and non-governmental organisations to increase the motivation of Romani pupils and students to study at secondary schools and universities in the region of Kosice.

R: regional and district  
offices

I: 2000

F: not required

9. Continue to organise educational/recreational camps. Use summer camps as a type of reward for good school reports, good attendance records, etc.

R: regional and district  
offices

I: permanent

F: SKK 550 thousand

10. Improve spatial and material conditions of special schools, especially in Revuca, Velky Krtis, Rimavska Sobota and Lucenec.

R: regional and district  
offices

I: permanent

F: SKK 17.5 million

11. Within the framework of the existing network of apprentice schools, create conditions for the acceptance of pupils who have successfully completed their education at special schools and will continue to fulfil their compulsory school attendance.

R: regional and district  
offices

I: permanent

F: SKK 350 thousand

12. In co-operation with district office social affairs departments, secure personal visits by pedagogical school staff to the families of Romani pupils with the aim of improving co-operation between schools and Romani families in children's upbringing and education.

R: regional and district  
offices

I: permanent  
F: SKK 100 thousand

13. Organise discussions and regular meetings with police, doctors, psychologists, psychiatrists, etc, with the aim of improving the population's education level.

R: regional and district  
offices  
I: permanent  
F: SKK 30 thousand

14. Organise competitions within individual regions, especially in the field of interest artistic and sports activities of pupils from Romani families.

R: regional and district  
offices  
I: permanent  
F: SKK 350 thousand

15. Improve the quality of conditions for practical lessons in schools, gradually improve the material and technical equipment of school workshops and guide students towards a better relationship to work and professional orientation.

R: regional and district  
offices  
I: permanent  
F: SKK 800 thousand

16. Establish more school clubs for children and secure opportunities for school catering if parents so request and financial possibilities allow.

R: regional and district  
offices  
I: permanent  
F: SKK 770 thousand

17. Adopt effective measures to gradually eliminate truancy by Romani pupils in co-operation with offence commissions at municipal, town and district offices.

R: regional and district  
offices  
I: permanent  
F: not required

18. Support the pre-school education of Romani children from the age of 3, at the latest 5.

R: regional and district  
offices  
I: continuous  
F: not required



19. Within the framework of the fieldwork of district educational psychologists, diagnose where these children lag behind socially and mentally and propose an effective individual approach when training and educating Romani children (to remove the difference).

R: regional and district  
offices

I: continuous

F: SKK 35 thousand

20. Prepare a project for the establishment of preparatory (zero grade) classes and assess the suitability of its implementation at concrete primary schools and the methods used to overcome the language barrier.

R: regional and district  
offices

I: depending on the  
experimental testing of the  
project

F: SKK 60 thousand

21. Create conditions for the implementation of the experimental project for the establishment of preparatory (zero grade) classes at primary schools in localities with a large proportion of Romani children (Sarovec, possibly Salov).

R: regional and district  
offices

I: 30.6.2000

F: SKK 400 thousand

22. Continue the experimental project of a preparatory class for Romani pupils from socially disadvantaged backgrounds in the village of Zemne.

R: regional and district  
offices

I: 2<sup>nd</sup> semester of the  
1999/2000 academic year

F: SKK 200 thousand

23. Open another preparatory class within the framework of the “experiment” for Romani children from socially disadvantaged backgrounds (with postponed school attendance) in the 2000/2001 academic year.

R: regional office,

Nove Zamky district office

I: 2000

F: SKK 200 thousand

24. Continue to innovate teaching methods and forms, and introduce didactic games with the application of enhancement programmes at primary schools. Incorporate training and education implementation plans into the educational plans of schools and pre-school facilities in municipalities with a large Romani population.

R: regional and district  
offices

I: 2000/2001

F: SKK 150 thousand

25. Open a preparatory (zero grade) class mainly for Romani children at the primary school on Gorkeho street in Trnava.

R: regional and district  
offices

I: 1.9.2000

F: SKK 296 thousand

26. Hold summer camps for children from socially disadvantaged backgrounds and children with behavioural problems in co-operation with the Trnava regional office social affairs department.

R: regional and district  
offices

I: July, August 2000

F: SKK 30 thousand

27. Support the activities of interest clubs within the framework of extra-curricular activities in municipalities with a high concentration of Roma focused on art, dance, music, and other interest activities.

R: district offices

I: permanent

F: SKK 30 thousand

28. Implement the “Our World is Colourful” project - a summer camp for around 20 children aimed at developing Romani culture through the “2000 Programme for the Protection and Support of Children and Youth in the Slovak Republic” project within the framework of co-operation between the Senica district office and Ministry of Education.

R: district office, Ministry  
of Education

I: 30.10.2000

F: SKK 25 thousand

29. Evaluate the possibility of tutoring Romani and other children lagging behind at 6-8 primary schools.

R: district offices

I: permanent

F: SKK 30 thousand

30. Improve the facilities of the primary school in Ratnovce with the highest number of Romani pupils.

R: Piestany district office

I: 2000

F: SKK 175 thousand

31. Hold a summer camp for children from socially disadvantaged backgrounds and children with behavioural problems in co-operation with the Trnava regional office social affairs department.

R: regional office,

Piestany district office  
I: July, August 2000  
F: SKK 15 thousand

32. Hold a summer camp for children from socially disadvantaged backgrounds and children with behavioural problems in co-operation with the Trnava regional office social affairs department.

R: regional office,  
Dunajská Streda district  
office  
I: July, August 2000  
F: SKK 40 thousand

33. Support the activities of leisure-time centres. Motivate Romani children and youth to make meaningful use of their free time in interest clubs.

R: Skalica district office  
I: continuous  
F: SKK 14 thousand

### 3. Language and Culture

The Government recognises the Romani culture and language as unquestionable cultural heritage of the Slovak Republic. The Government's measures are aimed at creating conditions for the preservation, cultivation and development of the Romani language, and equally for the development of culture, publishing of periodical and non-periodical press, activities of cultural organisations, unions and publishers.

#### Ministry of Culture

1. Provide financing through elaborated projects and after their objective assessment from the point of view of priorities for the development of Romani culture at a level conditional upon the amount of finance allocated for minority cultures in the state budget for cultural activities and the publishing of periodical and non-periodical press.

R: Ministry of Culture  
I: 2000  
F: N

2. Organise twice yearly meetings with Romani civic associations, organise training on elaborating project proposals, correct maintenance of the necessary documentation, calculating state budget subsidies (binding) and providing information on possibilities for obtaining finance.

R: Ministry of Culture  
I: annual  
F: SKK 10 thousand

3. Organise a conference on the systems and methods of developing Romani culture in co-operation with the University of Constantine the Philosopher in Nitra and other selected institutions and state bodies.

R: Ministry of Culture  
I: 2000  
F: N

4. Organise a joint event for national minorities under the name Evening of National Minorities in the Slovak Republic in Kosice through a mutual agreement between legal and physical entities developing Romani culture.

R: Ministry of Culture  
I: 2000  
F: N

5. Secure social and historical research on Roma in Slovakia.

R: Ministry of Culture  
I: from March 2000  
to 31.12.2001  
F: 2000: SKK 250 thousand

6. With the Minority Broadcast Council, initiate talks with the management of Slovak Radio and Slovak Television with the aim of extending the length of airtime for the Romani national minority.

R: Ministry of Culture  
I: 2000  
F: N

#### Ministry of the Environment

Organise a series of projections of environmental films, debates and art competitions, and support the activities of Romani non-governmental organisations in this area in co-operation with the Slovak Environmental Agency.

R: Ministry of the  
Environment  
I: 2000  
F: SKK 10 thousand  
(Environmental Agency's  
budget)

#### Kosice region

1. In co-operation with the regional office's culture and education departments, methodically and financially support the further development of the Centre for the Culture and Education of Romani Youth and Children of the Kosice Region.

R: Kosice regional office  
I: 2000  
F: for more detail: see  
*education and training,*  
*Kosice region, point 5.*

2. Create prerequisites for the artistic growth of the Romathan Theatre ensemble in Kosice through methodical and financial measures to preserve and develop Romani culture.

R: regional office  
I: 2000  
F: SKK 6 850 thousand

3. In co-operation with self-government bodies and non-governmental organisations for the development of Romani culture, create conditions for the development of local Romani cultural groups with the aim of developing exceptional talents to engage them in further education at the Secondary School of Arts situated in Kosice, Exnarova street No. 8 and subsequent artistic participation at the Romathan Theatre.

R: regional and district  
offices  
I: 2000  
F: N

4. Support multicultural activities with the aim of having a preventive effect in the area of reducing ethnic tension.

R: regional and district  
offices  
I: 2000  
F: N

### Nitra region

1. Establish a music group and promote its activities focusing on traditional Romani music and songs.

R: regional and district  
offices  
I: continuous  
F: SKK 50 thousand

2. Secure a series of lectures at leisure-time centres on model programmes for Romani children with behavioural problems at primary schools.

R: regional and district  
offices  
I: continuous  
F: SKK 25 thousand

3. Following its assessment at the Ministry of Culture, implement the Pozitavska library project in Nove Zamky under the name “Culture – book – Roma”.

R: regional and district  
offices  
I: 2000  
F: SKK 30 thousand

4. Following its assessment at the Ministry of Culture, implement the “Romani Tradition of our Forefathers” project.

R: regional and district  
offices in co-operation with  
the Nove Zamky  
Foundation for the  
Education of Children and  
Youth  
I: 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2000  
F: SKK 100 thousand

### Bratislava region

1. Elaborate a model for the utilisation of cultural and educational facilities, libraries and clubs established by self-governments with the intention of forming the Romani minority’s cultural feeling.

The implementation of this task will be divided into several stages:

- elaboration of a model for the utilisation of interest and artistic activities,

R: regional and district offices  
I: March 2000  
F: The task has no direct financial  
demands. It will be secured by  
state administration staff and  
Romani activists.

- verification of the model in practice - Pezinok educational facility,

R: regional and district offices

I: May - August 2000

F: N

- evaluation of the results, knowledge and experience, and the further extension of the scope of the self-government's facilities' activities,

R: regional and district offices

I: by the end of 2000

F: in the financial area, attempt to persuade mayors to agree to provide facilities free of charge for the benefit of Romani children and youth.

## 2. Engage existing district newspapers and television broadcasts in active work

- enter into talks with the editors-in-chief of district newspapers and TV channels and conclude framework agreements on the release of new information (articles, interviews, etc.)

R: regional and district offices

I: May 2000

- provide relevant information to individual district newspaper and TV newsrooms according to their editorial deadlines

R: regional and district offices

I: regular or when events unfold

## 3. Activate leisure-time centres and non-governmental organisations to meaningfully engage Romani children and youth in interest activities in the framework of making valuable use of free time.

R: regional and district offices

I: 2000

F: total, points 1-3:

SKK 300 thousand

#### **4. Un/employment**

The districts with a large proportion of Roma that are most affected by long-term unemployment are Rimavska Sobota, Spisska Nova Ves, Vranov nad Toplou, Revuca, Roznava and Kosice.

It is necessary to focus on a regional policy which is mainly oriented on the economic development of regions, the further development of small and medium-size enterprise and the inflow of foreign investment. It is not currently possible to reduce unemployment among the Romani population through publicly beneficial work alone. A strategy for cultural identification, employment opportunities and solving socio-economic problems needs to be adopted. Employment is a key factor for the development of this national minority.

##### Ministry of Economy

1. Support stimuli for the participation of foreign investors in the restructuring and modernisation of already existing companies with the aim of saving or creating jobs.

R: Ministry of Economy

I: 2000

F: not required

2. In connection with raising the issue of processing timber using domestic production capacities, arising from Governmental Resolution No. 830/1999 on the document "Wood - Material of the 21st Century", resolve the participation of the Romani population in the process, particularly by creating job opportunities in primary processing of timber at small and medium sawmills, skidding and assistance at storage facilities, and as seasonal workers.

R: Ministry of Economy

I: 2000-2001

F: not required

3. Create conditions for involving the Romani population in the process of the separated collection, sorting and recycling of recyclable waste.

R: Ministry of Economy

I: 2000

F: not required

4. Create conditions for the implementation of the Education and Training Programme for Small and Medium-size Enterprises designed for selected entrepreneurial groups and start-up entrepreneurs from the Romani national minority.

R: Ministry of Economy

I: 2000/2001

F: SKK 5 million

##### Ministry of Agriculture

1. Create publicly beneficial jobs using National Labour Office funds under §91 of Employment Act no. 387/96 Coll. for long-term unemployed with low qualifications -



mowing weeds, collecting hay, maintaining field and forest paths, collecting and incinerating brushwood after wood felling, etc.

R: Ministry of Agriculture,  
National Labour Office  
I: 2000  
F: N

2. In co-operation with the Land Fund, consider the possibility of allocating and leasing agricultural land to Roma for growing agricultural crops for their own consumption.

R: Ministry of Agriculture  
I: 2000  
F: not required

### Nitra region

1. Organise re-qualification courses for unemployed Roma helping them to better assert themselves on the labour market and in the business sphere in co-operation with the regional advisory and information centre in Nitra and the district labour office.

R: regional and district offices  
I: continuous  
F: SKK 80 thousand

1. Increase co-operation with the district labour office and employers on occupying free positions and publicly beneficial jobs with unemployed Roma (registered at the labour office) with the aim of filling as many positions, or newly open positions, as possible with Roma citizens.

R: regional and district offices  
I: continuous  
F: not required

2. In co-operation with the district labour office, actively seek jobs suitable for Romani citizens (who have undergone the requalification courses, training, etc. needed for the performance of a concrete job). Support Roma in reviving certain traditional trades (leather worker, wood carver, carpenter, smith, etc.).

R: regional and district offices  
I: permanent  
F: not required

3. Support publicly beneficial work in localities where there is high unemployment among Roma and there are no conditions for the creation of other job opportunities.

R: regional office,  
Sala district office  
I: continuous  
F: SKK 120 thousand

R: regional office,

Zlate Moravce district office  
I: continuous  
F: SKK 120 thousand

R: regional office,  
Topolcany District office  
I: continuous  
F: SKK 400 thousand

4. In co-operation with the National Labour Office, provide expert advice and support projects in the area of small businesses and self-employment of Roma, above all in traditional trades.

R: regional and district offices in  
co-operation with the National  
Labour Office  
I: permanent  
F: not required

5. Inform Romani entrepreneurs through municipal offices of the possibilities of receiving advice from the Sala district office.

R: regional office,  
Sala district office  
I: continuous  
F: not required

#### Banska Bystrica region

1. Prepare effective requalification courses in co-operation with the National Labour Office. On the basis of demand create mini workshops in regions. Build a management that will search for markets for their products. Link production with sale (e.g. arrange to sell children's clothing where it is sewn).

R: regional and district offices in  
co-operation with the National  
Labour Office  
I: permanent  
F: SKK 1 200 thousand

2. Predominantly Roma will be employed for publicly beneficial building work in towns and villages and keeping Romani settlements tidy.

R: regional and district offices in  
co-operation with the National  
Labour Office  
I: permanent  
F: N

#### Trencin region

1. On the basis of recommendations from the Regional Council of Entrepreneurs, the regional office will actively revise and change the composition of fields of study and curricula at individual schools in the Trencin region.

R: regional and district offices in  
co-operation with the Ministry of  
Education  
I: 2000  
F: not required

2. Support Romani entrepreneurs in their activities and mainly in employing citizens belonging to the Romani national minority using all available forms, particularly advisory and information activities.

R: regional and district offices  
I: 2000.  
F: not required

#### Kosice region

1. Through organisational units of the National Labour Office:
  - re-qualify clients in the long-term SANCA (Chance) course focused on gardening, nursing and sewing in co-operation with the Academy of Education in Kosice,
  - implement the BRISTOL re-qualification programme to activate and train unemployed in a profession at their place of future employment,
  - create new publicly beneficial jobs for gardening and housing construction, particularly in co-operation with self-government bodies in the districts of Rožnava and Spišská Nová Ves,
  - promote entrepreneurial opportunities and CEPAC Slovakia courses for start-up entrepreneurs through district offices and the National Labour Office.

R: regional and district offices in  
co-operation with the National  
Labour Office  
I: 2000  
F: not required

#### Bratislava region

1. Support publicly beneficial work in districts where there is high unemployment among Roma and there are no conditions for the creation of other job opportunities.

R: regional and district offices in  
co-operation with the National  
Labour Office  
I: 2000

2. Support suitable forms of advice for Romani entrepreneurs.

R: regional and district offices in  
co-operation with the National  
Labour Office  
I: 2000  
F: total, points 1-3:  
SKK 160 thousand

### Zilina region

Increase the share of re-qualification within the framework of active labour market policy instruments for Roma in sectors with a shortage of labour (according to regional and local conditions e.g. in the textile and clothing industry, healthcare, education, social areas and leather processing).

R: regional and district offices,  
National Labour Office

I: 2000

F: SKK 80 thousand

## 5. Housing

The Strategy of the Government for Solution of Problems of the Romani National Minority and a Set of Measures for Its Implementation - Stage I approved through Governmental Resolution No. 821/1999 presents the solution of the housing of socially dependent citizens living above all in Romani settlements as one of the most pressing areas in addressing the Problems of the Romani national minority.

It describes the current state of Romani settlements in Slovakia and also expresses the need to address this conceptually, continuously and in the long-term on the basis of the widest possible cross-society consensus on one hand and targeted state policy on the other.

In connection with this, the Government submitted strategic goals to ministries and regional offices with a request for their elaboration in the conditions of relevant sectors and regional offices.

### Ministry of Construction and Regional Development

1. Within the framework of the amendment being prepared to Governmental Ordinance No. 181/1996 Coll. on housing development programmes as amended by Governmental Ordinance No. 105/1997 Coll., propose a programme for the construction of rental blocks of flats determined for housing citizens on low incomes, among whom Romani citizens can also be included.

R: Ministry of Construction and  
Regional Development

I: 2000

F: N

2. Allocate a section of funds from the Ministry's finance determined for the "Housing Development Support Programme" to address technical problems, or the construction of flats of an adjusted standard in Romani settlements.

R: Ministry of Construction and  
Regional Development

I: 2000

F: N

3. Update the "Model Projects for Houses of an Adjusted Standard for non-adaptable Groups of Citizens" so that adequate conditions are created for the construction of flats for citizens of the Romani national minority.

R: Ministry of Construction and  
Regional Development

I: 2000

F: not required

### Ministry of the Environment

1. Secure the elaboration or updating of the review of Romani settlements specifically focusing on the number of Romani homes (shacks) built without construction permits and the necessary technical infrastructure.

R: Ministry of the Environment in  
co-operation with local state  
administration  
I: 2000  
F: not required

2. Within the framework of the amount of contributions to the 2000 Green Project, allocate finance for a grant project addressing the involvement of Romani citizens in environmental protection.

R: Ministry of the Environment  
I: April 2000  
F: N

Kosice region

1. **Create conditions** in individual districts of the Kosice region for the construction of new *flats*, whose occupants will be citizens of the Romani national minority:

KOSICE II DISTRICT

- 150 flats in Lunik IX.

KOSICE III DISTRICT

- 4 flats

KOSICE IV DISTRICT

- 24 flats on the Nad Jazerom estate

KOSICE-SURROUNDINGS DISTRICT

- 51 flats, Moldava nad Bodvou
- 26 flats, Turna nad Bodvou
- 50 flats, Velka Ida

TREBISOV DISTRICT

- 28 flats, Trebisov
- 40 flats, Secovce
- 25 flats, Kralovsky Chlmec
- 32 flats, Cierna nad Tisou
- 17 flats, Egres
- 4 flats, Leles
- 7 flats, Nizny Zipov
- 25 flats, Backov

MICHALOVCE DISTRICT

- 44 flats, Angi Mlyn
- 90 flats, reconstruction - Strazske

GELNICA DISTRICT

- 20 flats, Gelnica
- 10 flats, Richnava
- 12 flats, Nalepkovo

#### SOBRANCE DISTRICT

- 5 flats, Sobrance

#### SPISSKA NOVA VES DISTRICT

- 30 flats, Vilcurna
- 40 flats, settlement in Bystrany
- 12 flats, Spisske Tomasovce
- 27 flats, Smizany
- 3 attic flats, Zehra
- 120 flats, Krompachy
- 24 flats, Spisska Nova Ves - Finis

SKK 29 million was allocated for flat construction and SKK 32 million for the construction of engineering networks in the Housing Support Programme for the Kosice region in 2000. In January 2000, the Ministry of Construction and Regional Development published guidelines for the construction of rental flats. The regional office forwarded them to district offices in the Kosice region for further distribution to self-governments. Pursuant to the above, municipalities will submit their requests, elaborated in line with the new parameters, to the relevant district office by 21.2.2000. The requests from the districts will be completed by the regional office during March 2000. The amount of financing for the construction of flats and technical infrastructure for 2000 will be made known in April 2000 following the completion of the approval process at the Ministry of Construction and Regional Development.

R: regional and district offices,  
self-governments

I: 2000

F: N

2. Secure the elaboration of a review of Romani settlements with a low social-cultural level, update the review of Romani settlements focusing on the number of Romani homes built without construction permits.

R: regional and district offices,  
self-governments

I: 2000

F: not required

3. After completing the documentation on the settlements (housing and infrastructure), **prepare a proposal** for the implementation of selected projects of the Kosice region's district offices in the field of addressing the problems of the Romani national minority for the period until 2002:

#### GELNICA DISTRICT

- construction of 22 flats in the Gelnica-Haj locality,
- construction of 6-8 flats in the Mnisek nad Hnilcom locality,
- construction of 6 flats in the Nalepkovo locality.

#### KOSICE I DISTRICT

- address the problem of housing on Vodarenska street in the city district of Kosice-North.

#### KOSICE II DISTRICT

- continuously evaluate the VATRA re-socialisation programme implemented in the city district of Lunik IX.

#### KOSICE IV DISTRICT

- Improve the standard of housing by organising activities in co-operation with self-government bodies and non-governmental organisations.

#### KOSICE-Surroundings DISTRICT

- construction of an access road to the Romani settlement in the village of Boliarov,
- construction of a sewer in the Romani settlement in the village of Boliarov.

#### MICHALOVCE DISTRICT

- in co-operation with the inhabitants of the Angy Mlyn locality, address the disposal of municipal waste and secure the overall aestheticisation of the surroundings.

#### ROZNAVA DISTRICT

- construction of 20 flats in houses built from stabilised clay soil in the village of Brzotin.

R: regional office

I: continuous

F: not required

#### Presov region

1. Discuss and forward for further proceedings the projects of mayors in the Snina, Medzilaborce, Vranov nad Toplou, Sabinov, Poprad, Kezmarok and Presov districts elaborated in line with Ministry of Construction and Regional Development Regulation No. 8/1999, through which the rules for the provision of contributions for the construction of rental flats are laid down and Ministry of Construction and Regional Development Regulation No. 2/2000, through which the rules for the provision of contributions for the construction of technical infrastructure are laid down.

The costs of constructing flats, flats of an adjusted standard and other housing are SKK 150 million.

The costs of building technical infrastructure (water, sewers, gas, electricity) are SKK 50 million.

R: regional and district offices

I: 2000

F: SKK 30 000 thousand

#### Banska Bystrica region

1. Secure the elaboration of a review of Romani settlements with a low social-cultural level, update the review of Romani settlements focusing on the number of Romani homes built without construction permits.

R: regional and district offices in co-operation with self-governments

I: 2000

F: not required



Nitra region

1. Discuss projects for the construction of rental flats and technical infrastructure in line with Ministry of Construction and Regional Development regulations no. 8/1999 and 2/2000, through which the rules for the provision of contributions for the respective construction are laid down.

R: regional and district offices

I: 2000

F: not required

## 6. Social Affairs

The development of the society's social structure has reached a stage, in which there are even greater social differences than in the previous period. With regard to living standard, the group of members of the Romani national minority prevailing living in settlements is traditionally one of the worst affected population groups characterised by high unemployment and a low level of education and housing, which causes their low social level. Besides the low qualifications of Roma, there is a particularly significant lack of job opportunities due to the very high unemployment rate.

It is obvious that in such socio-economic conditions, the Romani national minority can not change its social position alone and without the help of the majority. Without changing its views, stances and approaches, the majority will not help Roma to reach an equal starting position to secure equal opportunities characterising the full emancipation of this republic's citizens.

The first providers of social assistance were so-called social fieldworkers working in Romani communities. They were provided on the basis of governmental resolutions no. 310/1996 and 796/1997. The social fieldworkers worked at district office social affairs departments in the area of caring for *citizens needing special assistance*. The focus of the activities of social fieldworkers, who were appointed to solve the problems of *citizens needing special assistance*, should already be laid down under Governmental Resolution No. 821/1999 as *solving the problems of the Romani national minority* in their corresponding regions.

The Government is creating conditions to increase the participation of charitable organisations, groups and foundations, and other non-state entities in the system of providing social assistance to the Romani community, particularly those living in Romani settlements. Social assistance is aimed particularly at social prevention for Romani children from families in material or social need.

### Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family

1. Provide state budget subsidies to civic associations which secure activities under the Ministry's competence with a focus on social prevention for Romani children from families in material or social need.

R: Ministry of Labour, Social  
Affairs and Family

I: continuous

F: SKK 500 thousand

2. Include a research task mapping the Romani family among the Labour and Social Affairs Research Institute's research plan for 2000 and allocate a corresponding volume of finance for the implementation of the task.

R: Ministry of Labour, Social  
Affairs and Family, the Institute

I: 2000

F: SKK 500 thousand

3. Call twice yearly meetings of local state administration staff and provide them with methodical assistance aimed mainly at legislative aspects of the Romani minority issue

with regard to material or social need. Also invite non-state entities active in the social area of the Romani issue to these meetings.

R: Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family in co-operation with the Ministry of the Interior  
I: continuous  
F: not required

#### Ministry of Construction and Regional Development

Encourage and involve students from socially neglected family backgrounds providing little stimulation in leisure activities.

R: headmasters of apprentice schools  
I: 2000  
F: not required

#### Ministry of Justice

To assist offenders released from prison, the budget focuses on providing pocket money and travel expenses.

R: Ministry of Justice  
I: 2000  
F: SKK 1.921 million

#### Regional offices

1. To safeguard initiatory, co-ordination and advisory activities in the field of resolving the problems of the Romani national minority, create advisory bodies for heads of regional offices and district offices in the regions.

R: regional and district offices  
I: 2000  
F: not required

2. Twice a year, organise working meetings between the so-called social fieldworkers, representatives of the Secretariat of the Government's Plenipotentiary for Addressing Romani Minority Problems, and employees of pedagogical and research institutions and special state administration bodies with the aim of resolving specific problems of the Romani national minority in individual districts.

R: regional and district offices  
I: 2000  
F: not required

3. Co-operate with territorial self-administration bodies and Romani national minority representatives in resolving concrete problems.

R: regional and district offices  
I: 2000  
F: not required

4. Organise educational and advisory events for adults in co-operation with Romani non-governmental organisations and self-government bodies, and educational/recreational camps for Romani children from families in material need.

R: regional and district offices  
I: July-August 2000  
F: not required

5. Create conditions for the prevention of violence committed against children and women.

R: regional and district offices  
I: 2000  
F: not required

6. In co-operation with self-government authorities and Romani national minority non-governmental organisations, elaborate and participate in projects and programmes for the prevention of crime and other anti-social activities.

R: regional and district offices  
I: 2000  
F: not required

7. Regularly analyse the payment of social assistance benefits and provision of social services.

R: regional and district offices  
I: 2000  
F: not required

8. Co-operate with prison and court warden staff in the reintegration of adult Roma returning from custody or imprisonment into society.

R: regional and district offices  
I: 2000  
F: not required

#### Banska Bystrica region

9. In the area of social care, together with non-governmental organisations, create social advice agencies and gradually build social fieldworker networks (for 13 district offices), who will work in Romani settlements on a daily basis, propose steps to improve life in Romani settlements and assist in resolving their problems.

R: regional and district offices in  
co-operation with  
non-governmental organisations  
I: permanent  
F: SKK 1.3 million

#### Nitra region

10. Within the framework of co-operation with state administration bodies and Romani non-state associations, secure the enhancement of the family environment and provide advice and social assistance to Romani families in their natural social environment.

R: regional and district offices  
I: continuous  
F: not required

11. Organise summer educational/recreational camps for Romani children.

R: regional and district offices  
I: 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2000  
F: SKK 820 thousand

12. Within the framework of social advice, organise educational activities for Romani families aimed at educating and caring for children and a healthy lifestyle in every district of the Nitra region.

R: regional and district offices  
I: 2000  
F: SKK 150 thousand

13. Organise training for social workers, especially in the area of communication with Romani clients.

R: Nitra regional and district offices  
I: 2000  
F: SKK 100 thousand

14. Continue to provide assistance to socially dependent families with disabled children and adults by securing humanitarian aid from the Humanity House in Senica.

R: Trnava regional and district offices  
I: permanent  
F: not required

Hlohovec district office

15. Prepare an educational/recreational camp for Romani children coming from families in material and social need and environments providing little stimulation.

R: regional and district offices  
I: July-August 2000  
F: SKK 15 thousand

16. In co-operation with schools and educational facilities, identify children and youth with tendencies towards delinquent behaviour and, using suitable methods, instil their responsibility for their future into them. Process a review of problematic children with basic individual diagnostics.

R: regional office, district offices  
I: May 2000

17. Initiate co-operation with the self-government and non-governmental organisations and create conditions for the acquisition of information on the life of the Romani minority, on

communication and the practical resolution of its problems in the system of vocational training.

R: regional and district offices in  
co-operation with non-  
governmental organisations  
I: continuous

18. Systematically improve the qualification of social workers with the aim of influencing the human factor (communication with Romani clients).

R: regional and district offices  
I: Sept.- Nov. 2000  
F: total, points 17-18:  
SKK 300 thousand

## **7. Health (environment)**

### Ministry of Health

1. Continue to implement the “Schools Supporting Health” project.

R: Ministry of Health  
I: 2000  
F: SKK 250 thousand

2. Prepare a proposal for the preventive immunisation against hepatitis A of Romani children between the ages of 1 and 10 from environments with the greatest risk of infection - Romani settlements with a very low standard of hygiene.

R: Ministry of Health  
I: 2000  
F: SKK 50 000 thousand

3. Implement the following projects elaborated by the Health Education Institute:

- a) increasing health awareness of Romani children aged between 6 and 9.

R: Ministry of Health  
I: 2000  
F: SKK 250 thousand

- b) increasing health awareness of Romani children aged between 10 and 15.

R: Ministry of Health  
I: 2000  
F: SKK 500 thousand

- c) teaching Romani citizens about marriage and family planning.

R: Ministry of Health  
I: 2000  
F: SKK 500 thousand

### Regional offices

1. Secure vaccines against hepatitis A and B, and laboratory tests of drinking-water. Secure educational work in the area of good hygiene practice.

R: regional and district offices in  
co-operation with the Ministry of  
Health  
I: annual  
F: SKK 800 thousand

2. In co-operation with schools, implement health education activities on the subjects of nutrition, personal hygiene, parenthood, promotion of inoculation, and prevention of addiction.

R: regional and district offices  
I: annual  
F: not required

3. Elaborate a peer education programme for the municipality with the highest number of Romani children.

R: regional and district offices in co-operation with the State Health Institute  
I: 2000  
F: not required

4. Promote health education activities through the mass media, focusing on the Romani population.

R: regional office  
I: permanent  
F: not required

5. Prevent infectious diseases from starting and spreading in Romani settlements through targeted preventive measures against epidemics and by increasing hygiene oversight.

R: Bratislava regional and district offices  
I: continuous  
F: SKK 480 thousand

6. Create conditions for the establishment of home nursing agencies, particularly in the districts of Malacky, Pezinok and Senec.

R: regional and district offices  
I: continuous

7. Inspect the quality of water sources used as drinking water supplies by the inhabitants of Romani settlements. If the water sources are found to be unacceptable, take appropriate measures.

R: regional and district offices  
I: 2000  
F: SKK 10 thousand

8. Implement educational programmes for Romani families in the form of promotion and lectures focused on the issue of learning basic hygiene practice.

R: regional and district offices  
I: 2000  
F: SKK 50 thousand



9. Implement educational programmes for Romani families in the form of promotion and lectures focused on the issue of adopting basic hygiene practice and a healthy lifestyle.

R: regional and district offices

I: 2000

F: SKK 75 thousand

10. Continue health education programmes focused on family planning and a healthy lifestyle.

R: regional and district offices

I: 2000

F: not required

11. Regional state health institutes will focus their health education activities on districts and schools with high number of socially weak and non-adaptable families. Aim lectures and promotional activities at all types of schools, particularly classes with a large number of Romani pupils.

R: Trenčín regional and district offices

I: 2000

F: SKK 100 thousand